

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of processing data at a remote storage system connected to a local storage system, wherein the remote storage system stores a copy of data that the local storage system stores, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving, from the local storage system, fixed-block formatted data converted from mainframe formatted data, the mainframe formatted data being provided to the local storage system by a host computer connected to the local storage system; and

in response to a mainframe command received from a host computer connected to the remote storage system, converting the fixed-block formatted data to mainframe formatted data.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

storing the fixed-block formatted data received from the local storage system in a cache memory of the remote storage system.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the mainframe command is a read command.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the mainframe formatted data is Count-Key-Data formatted data, wherein the fixed-block formatted data is Small Computer Systems Interface (SCSI) formatted data.

5. A method of processing data at a remote storage system connected to a local storage system, wherein the remote storage system stores a copy of data that the local storage system stores, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving, from the local storage system, fixed-block formatted data converted from mainframe formatted data, the mainframe formatted data being provided to the local storage system by a local host computer connected to the local storage system; and

in response to a mainframe command received from a remote host computer connected to the remote storage system, sending mainframe formatted data converted from the fixed-block formatted data received from the local storage system to the remote host computer.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:

storing the fixed-block formatted data received from the local storage system in a cache memory of the remote storage system.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the mainframe command is a read command.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein the mainframe formatted data is Count-Key-Data formatted data, and

wherein the fixed-block formatted data is Small Computer Systems Interface (SCSI) formatted data.

9. A data storage system connected to a first data storage system, for storing a copy of data that the first data storage system stores, the data storage system comprising:

a first interface, connected to a host computer, for receiving a mainframe command from the host computer; and

a second interface, connected to the first data storage system, for receiving fixed-block formatted data converted from mainframe formatted data, the mainframe formatted data being provided to the first storage system by a first host computer connected to the first storage system.

10. The data storage system of claim 9, wherein in response to the mainframe command, mainframe formatted data converted from the fixed-block formatted data received from the first data storage system is sent to the host computer through the first interface.

11. The data storage system of claim 9, further comprising:  
a cache memory for storing the fixed-block formatted data received from the local storage system.

12. The data storage system of claim 9, wherein the mainframe command is a read command.

13. The data storage system of claim 9, wherein the mainframe formatted data is Count-Key-Data formatted data, and

wherein the fixed-block formatted data is Small Computer Systems Interface (SCSI) formatted data.